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Borough of  Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1935

BY

DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Together with the Report of
F. R. JEFFORD, M.R.San.I.,
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

“Salus Populi Suprema Lex.”

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Cheltenham.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the annual report on the health of Cheltenham for the year 1935.

The report is a statutory duty placed on the Medical Officer of Health and is arranged in a form prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

The year was, as far as Cheltenham was concerned, an even more healthy one than usual. It will be seen in the report that the death rate figure, after correction for the high percentage of old persons in the population, was 9.9 per 1,000 compared with 11.7 for England and Wales as a whole. This is the lowest rate ever recorded for Cheltenham. In view of the increase in the average age of the population of England and Wales during the years which form the basis for the correction, the achievement of a record figure is all the more creditable.

Another record was broken by the return of an infant mortality figure of 34.6 compared with one of 57 for the country as a whole.

The past year witnessed the important decision of the Council to accept the City of Gloucester as a partner in the Tewkesbury Water Works undertaking and the formation of "The Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board." The agreement, which in the first place was sought by Gloucester, should also bring advantages to Cheltenham in matters relating both to health and economy.

The 'Overcrowding Survey' required by the 1935 Housing Act has added considerably to the work of the Health Department and will continue to do so for a long time to come. The policy of carrying out a complete survey in the first place, as suggested by the Medical Officer of Health, has proved of advantage in saving of time and will avoid a second disturbance of tenants. The work has been carried out very conscientiously by the special staff and the accuracy of the results can be affirmed with confidence.

It has certainly come as a surprise to find that Cheltenham has more overcrowding than some of the larger towns and that such a high percentage of the Corporation houses are overcrowded compared with the rest of the town, though there are obvious reasons which explain this state of affairs.

I should like to take the opportunity afforded by this report of thanking the Members of the Council for kindness and consideration shown in the conduct of the work, and to the Staff for the loyal and efficient way in which the increasingly varied requirements of the work are carried out.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1936.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

December, 1935.

The following particulars are given in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health.

Name	Qualifications, etc.	Nature of Appointment.
Dr. D. E. Morley	W * a b	M. O. H.
Dr. I. J. McDonough	W * b c	Deputy M. O. H.
Mr. F. R. Jefford	W * d e	Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Miss H. M. Jordan	W * i	Health Visitor.
Miss D. J. Goddard	W * f g h i j	„ „
Miss C. M. Powell	W * f g i k	„ „
Mr. C. W. Clifford	W * d	District Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. F. Keene	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. J. F. Ursell	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. W. Grange	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. W. Townsend	W	Disinfecting Inspector.
Miss B. A. Richards	W	Chief Clerk.
Miss D. Hyett	W	Clerk, M. & C. W. & Public Health.
Miss E. A. Stroud	P	Clerk, Public Health & School Medical.
Mr. A. J. Stroud	W	Pupil.

W Whole Time.

P Part Time.

* Contribution to Salary (50% Basis) made by Exchequer Grants.

a M.D., B.S., Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

b D.P.H.

c L.R.C.P. & S.

d Certified as Sanitary Inspector.

e Certified as Meat Inspector.

f Fully Trained Nurse.

g Registered Midwife.

h Ex. Queen's Nurse.

i Health Visitor's Certificate London.

j „ „ „ Scotland.

k Mothercraft Training Society Certificate.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1935.

Area (in acres)—5,146*		(Mid Year) 1935—51,140.*
Population	Census 1931—49,418	(Mid Year) 1934—50,350.
	Registrar General's Estimate	(Mid Year) 1933—50,720.
	of Resident Population	(Mid Year) 1932—51,160.
	Schools included	(Mid Year) 1931—50,900.
Number of inhabited houses (structurally separate)		
(Census 1921)—10,928. (Census 1931)—12,272.		
Number of inhabited houses (end 1935) according to Rate Books—14,200.*		
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921)—11,862.		
(Census 1931)—13,211.		
Rateable value £426,671.* Sum represented by a penny rate £1,688.*		
*Change of Boundary 1935.		

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	M.	F.	Totals.	Rates.
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	297	300	597	Birth Rate per 1000 population.
Illegitimate	17	22	39	
Totals	314	322	636	12·5
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	10	15	25	Still Birth Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births.
Illegitimate	2	—	2	
Totals	12	15	27	40·7
				Death Rate per 1000 population.
DEATHS	314	367	681	13·38

Cheltenham deaths from Puerperal Causes.	Nos	Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births.		Per 1000 Live Births.	
		Cheltenham	England and Wales	Cheltenham	England and Wales
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	1·51	1·61	1·57	1·68
Other Puerperal Causes	2	3·02	2·32	3·14	2·42
Totals	3	4·52	3·93	4·72	4·10

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.	Number of Cases.	Rate per 1000 Live Births.	
Legitimate	21	35·2	England and Wales
Illegitimate	1	25·6	
Totals	22	34·6	57

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)—1.

Corrected General Death Rate.

The application of the Registrar General's Factor (.74 for Cheltenham) to correct for age and sex distribution gives a corrected death rate of 9.9.

Comparative Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1935.

(Provisional figures.) The rates for England and Wales and Cheltenham have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1935, but those for London and the groups of towns, have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1934.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS		
	Live Births	Still-births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet-fever	Whooping cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	14.7	0.62	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.18	0.52	5.7	57
121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.8	0.68	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.09	0.16	0.45	7.9	62
140 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	14.8	0.64	11.2	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.17	0.41	3.8	55
London	13.3	0.52	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.06	0.11	0.51	11.2	58
CHELTENHAM	12.5	0.53	9.9 Corrected	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.24	0.52	0.02	34.6

Summary of the Chief Vital Statistics for the last five years.

Year	Estimated Population	No. of Births	Per 1,000 population Birth Rate	No. of Infant Deaths (under age one)	Infant Mortality Deaths per 1,000 births		Total No. of Deaths	Death Rates per 1,000 population							
					Borough	England and Wales		Recorded	Corrected	England and Wales	Tuberculosis		Influenza	Diphtheria	Measles
											Pulmonary	Other			
1931	50,900	657	12.9	24	36.5	66	756	14.85	11.2	12.3	0.92	0.14	0.45	0.04	0.04
1932	51,160	601	11.7	42	69.9	65	736	14.4	10.8	12.0	0.49	0.08	0.23	0.04	0.00
1933	50,720	623	12.3	32	51.3	64	849	16.74	12.6	12.3	0.61	0.08	1.26	0.00	0.00
1934	50,350	567	11.26	27	48.0	59	724	14.38	10.64	11.8	0.43	0.1	0.16	0.00	0.04
*1935	51,140	636	12.5	22	34.6	57	681	13.38	9.9	11.7	0.51	0.12	0.24	0.02	0.00
Yearly Average	50,854	617	12.13	29	47.7	—	749	14.75	11.03	—	0.59	0.1	0.47	0.02	0.02

Causes of Death, etc., for the Borough of Cheltenham as given by the Registrar-General for each of the five years 1931-35 inclusive.

Years ...						1931		1932		1933		1934		1935	
CAUSES OF DEATH.						Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	329	427	308	428	348	501	324	400	314	367
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
2	Measles	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
6	Influenza	...	...	...	...	12	11	3	9	29	35	2	6	6	6
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	27	20	15	10	17	14	10	12	15	11
10	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	2	5	1	3	—	4	3	2	3	3
11	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	3	—	5	1	10	—	3	—	1	2
13	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	39	66	29	69	53	67	39	54	32	49
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	3	7	9	1	7	3	4	9	13
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	17	24	19	21	12	22	19	31	18	32
16	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	60	105	63	110	79	142	93	120	81	113
17	Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	—	1	5	—	—	1	5	—	2	1
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	18	27	20	36	23	31	18	17	13	10
19	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	15	17	14	12	9	12	8	8	7	10
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	15	21	24	28	18	30	21	26	15	13
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	3	6	2	5	2	2	2	1	6	4
22	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	6	1	4	1	3	1	3	1	5	2
23	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	4	5	—	4	—	2	2	1	5	2
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	1	—	1	2	1	1	1
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	3	8	1	5	1	3	2	2	1	2
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	8	8	6	11	13	15	3	14	11	8
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	12	17	11	14	10	24	12	22	17	20
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	1
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	10	6	19	6	6	12	9	10	10	5
32	Senility	...	...	...	...	4	23	7	24	4	18	7	18	8	9
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	6	—	4	3	10	2	6	2	2	5
34	Other violence	...	...	...	...	9	5	8	7	8	11	13	11	10	9
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	47	41	33	30	37	41	37	30	30	32
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)															
Small-pox								—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis								—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis								—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.															
Total						15	9	28	14	13	18	12	15	14	8
Legitimate						12	9	26	13	12	18	12	15	14	7
Illegitimate						3	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Live Births.															
Total						338	319	301	300	321	302	270	297	314	322
Legitimate						312	289	289	278	301	284	257	277	297	300
Illegitimate						26	30	12	22	20	18	13	20	17	22
Still-births.															
Total						17	13	11	6	16	16	17	7	12	15
Legitimate						16	12	7	6	15	16	17	6	10	15
Illegitimate						1	1	4	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
Population						50,900		51,160		50,720		50,350		51,140	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS OF 1935.

Population added as a result of the extension of the Borough boundary on 1st April, 1935.

The estimate of the Registrar General of the population for the middle of 1934 was 50,350. This figure was provided in May, 1935 and was used by the Registrar General in his weekly returns until 27th July, 1935 when an addition of 750 was made to allow for the population of the areas added on the 1st of April, 1935.

The revised estimate of the population as it stood in the middle of 1935 has just been received and it is 51,140.

In addition a special figure, 50,903, is provided for the purpose of calculating birth and death rates. This is necessary because the deaths and births in the added areas were only included after 1st April, 1935. Calculating from this figure it would seem that a revised estimate of the added population has been made at about 950.

The increase in the yield of a penny rate ascribed to the new area was £32. If the population added is taken as 950 the increases in population and rateable value are nearly in proportion.

Birth Rate.

The number of births was 636. The average for the last ten years is 632. The comparison is slightly affected by the increase in size of the borough.

Infant Mortality. 34.6 (Record low rate).

There were 22 deaths of infants under one year of age. This gives an infant mortality of 34.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest figure ever recorded for Cheltenham. The figure for England and Wales was 57.

In 1932 the rate was 36.5 which now takes second place in order of merit.

As a contrast we can go back to the hot summer of 1911 when an infant mortality of 127 was returned. Dr. Garrett, the late Medical Officer of Health referred to that year in his report as an unfavourable year for infant life. In those days a high death rate among infants could frequently be traced to a hot dry summer, with many deaths from epidemic diarrhoea. For the last 10-15 years on the other hand, owing largely to the activities of Welfare Associations in improving methods and conditions of feeding, this disease does not appear to have had a very material effect on the mortality figures.

Cheltenham has for many years had a good record in infant mortality and for this much credit is due to a live and active Voluntary Infant Welfare Association which commenced its work nearly 30 years ago as a small branch of the Charity Organisation Society.

General Death Rate. 13.38 per 1,000 of population. Corrected 9.9 (Record low rate).

The death rate was particularly low and we have to go back 25 years to find a better uncorrected figure. The corrected death rate is the lowest on record by .4 per 1,000. A single figure (corrected) death rate for Cheltenham has never been reached before.

Factors associated with this were no doubt the absence of severe Influenza and a very mild January, February and March. The mortality from Cancer was particularly low, though no reason can be given for this.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

These were described in detail in the survey report on the year 1930.

A change of some importance relating to the working of the Delancey Fever Hospital was described in the report on 1933.

Other Additions and Alterations.

In cases where there have been numerical changes relating to specific services controlled by or liable to inspection by the Authority, such as the number of midwives in practice, the necessary information will be found included in the reports on the special services concerned.

PUBLIC HEALTH LEGISLATION.

Additional Powers.

The Cheltenham and Joint Water Board Bill, 1936.

This Bill, at present before Parliament contains a number of Health clauses, the powers given by the more important of which are indicated below :

- Sec. 119.** Gives powers to regulate the setting up of tents, vans, sheds, etc. for human habitation.
 - Sec. 120.** Places responsibility for repair of private combined drains on the owners of the houses.
 - Sec. 123.** Gives power to require the immediate remedy of urgent sanitary defects by an owner on receipt of a notice and allows the authority to carry out the work in default.
-

THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The reports on Drainage, Sewerage, Meat Inspection, etc., will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The new Sandford Park Swimming Pool.

The Sandford Swimming Pool which was opened last year has proved a great success and is a real asset to the health of the town. The water is kept in continuous circulation, and is subjected to filtration after the addition of alum and is then purified by chlorination and aeration. The reaction is kept at a suitable level by the addition of an alkali.

The physical character of the water remained good throughout the season except on one or two occasions when a cloudyness developed, probably from alum precipitation at the wrong point due to an excess of alkali.

The Medical Officer of Health was instructed to obtain samples for bacteriological analysis and the results were good even at times of very heavy load. There were complaints of smarting eyes from a few persons who appeared to be particularly sensitive to chlorine but the trouble was only of a temporary nature. It is true that occasionally the amount of chlorine at the shallow-end rose above .5 parts per million but it was felt that it was the better policy to err on the side of a large dose when the pool was very crowded.

Alstone Baths.

A process of filtration and purification, similar to that mentioned above, has been introduced at the Alstone baths and was in commission for the first time when the baths opened for the 1936 season.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for Cheltenham and district is obtained in five different localities and the supplies may be classified as being of four types.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| (1) Springs from the Cotswold Hills | ... | Hewletts. |
| " " " | ... | Leckhampton. |
| (2) Well in the Sand Bed | ... ... | Sandford Mead. |
| (3) Surface water at the source of the | | |
| Chelt (including water from | | |
| certain springs) | ... ... | Dowdeswell Reservoir. |
| (4) River water | | Water Works on the river
Severn at Tewkesbury. |

(1) The spring water enters the oldest part of the system. This section of the supply was laid down by the Cheltenham Water Company which commenced its activities during the reign of William IV. The water is collected into two sets of reservoirs, at Leckhampton and Hewletts respectively and passes into supply without filtration. Water from one small spring enters the supply direct.

(2) The water provided by the Sandford Mead pump is excessively hard and is only used in times of shortage, it is now sterilized by the chloramine process.

(3) The water at Dowdeswell is subject to double filtration. It is treated with Alum in its passage through (four) Candy's Mechanical Filters and is then further purified by passage through a fine sand bed before delivery into the main.

(4) The modernised Tewkesbury works were described in the 1933 report. The process has certain novel features but the essentials consist of fifteen hours sedimentation with alum, rapid filtration, after a further dose of alum when required, followed by sterilization with chloramine.

Prechlorination has also been used as a further precaution though the dose required when the water is turbid has been very large (1 to 1.5 parts per million). It is considered that it would be an improvement to prechlorinate at a somewhat later stage, that is, after the first heavy deposit has taken place.

Specimens of water for bacteriological and chemical analysis are taken regularly from all sources of supply.

THE CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER JOINT WATER BOARD.

During 1935 the Corporations of Cheltenham and Gloucester arrived at an agreement to establish a Joint Board for the management of the Tewkesbury water works.

In order to provide an initial share in the undertaking comparable with that of Cheltenham to whom the works belong, the Gloucester Corporation will make additions at Tewkesbury sufficient to double the output of water. They will also provide a 6,000,000 gallon reservoir at a height of 485 feet on the top of Churchdown Hill and will lay a 27 inch main to supply it with water from the point where the new 24 inch main terminates at Stonehouse Farm on the outskirts of Tewkesbury.

The scheme will enable Cheltenham to lay an 18 inch main from the new Churchdown reservoir to the Hewletts reservoir from which the water will be distributed by existing mains.

The expense is considered to be well justified for the following reasons.

The additional height of the Churchdown reservoir can be utilised through the new main to increase the pressure in the higher parts of Leckhampton and Charlton Kings where extensive building operations have been in progress for some years and the need for a better supply is making itself felt. The new main will also bring a supply to an area outside the borough, where development is proceeding rapidly, which could not be supplied with water from the existing system without additional pressure.

A further advantage is connected with the existence of a multiplicity of small sources of water, a feature of the supply which has for so long been a cause of embarrassment to those responsible for the purity of the water. There are at present, including separate spring heads, more than a dozen sources of water. Though some of these supplies enter the main reservoirs together, in order to provide a complete series of checks on the purity of the water, it is necessary to take at least eight samples of water at different points. The new arrangements will enable the Corporation to dispense with at least two of the smaller sources of supply which at present provide water of excessive hardness.

HOUSING.

Clearance Areas, 1935.

An enquiry was held by an Inspector representing the Minister of Health on the 7th of August, 1935, into the condition of a number of properties which had formed the subject of a representation by the Medical Officer of Health to the Public Health Committee at their meeting on 10th December, 1934.

Section 64 of The Housing Act, 1935 introduced a new feature into the conduct of the enquiry. This section allows the Minister to direct the local authority to make payments in respect of well maintained houses, which are the subject of Clearance Orders, either to the owner or the occupier whichever has been responsible for the good maintenance of the house.

A further feature which will be welcomed by all, is the preferential treatment of owner occupiers in the matter of compensation.

The Clearance Orders in respect of which the Council made application to the Ministry for confirmation concerned the following properties.

Nos. 1 to 5, Butts Cottages, Malvern Street ; 2—5, Crowther's Passage, Malvern Street ; 127—135, Tewkesbury Road ; 1 and 2, Phoenix Cottages, Phoenix Passage ; 8, 8a, 9—13 and 17, Grove Street ; 1—9, St. George's Avenue, High Street ; 33, 34 and 35, Rose and Crown Passage, High Street ; 4, 5 and 6, Berkeley Avenue, Winchcombe Street ; 2—12, Warwick Buildings, Winchcombe Street ; 1—9, Cakebridge Terrace, Prestbury Road ; 3—7, Field View Cottages, Whaddon Road ; 1—4, Angel Row, and 26, Fairview Road ; 1—4, Jersey Cottages, Sherborne Street ; 1 and 2, Dovedale Court, York Street ; 4, 6 and 8, Jersey Street ; 23, 25 and 27, Columbia Street ; 1 and 2, Llewellyn Cottages, Trinity School Lane ; 1—4, Fairview Terrace, Fairview Street ; 2, 3 and 4, Hartley Place, Witcombe Place ; 1 and 2, Zara Cottages, St. Anne's Terrace ; 39a and 41a, Duke Street ; 1—4, Cirencester Cottages, Duke Street ; 1—9, Montpellier Retreat and 42, 43 and 44, Montpellier Villas ; 1—5, Providence Cottages, Great Norwood Street, and 1 and 2, Wakefield Cottages, Upper Bath Road ; 1—5, Kew Place, Bath Road, and 1—5, Reform Place, Exmouth Street.

Confirmation of Orders.

The following properties were excluded from the list, by agreement, for the reasons indicated :—

4, 5 and 6, Berkeley Avenue. For use as a store.

2, Warwick Buildings and 2, Hartley Place. For the purpose of making approved additions to other properties.

42, 43 and 44, Montpellier Villas. For reconditioning after demolition of the houses included in the remainder of the area.

After exclusion from the Clearance Orders, the actions agreed on were put into effect by application of Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930.

In the case of No. 2 Hartley Place however, the owner decided not to proceed with the conversion and a Demolition Order was made in respect of the property.

Compensation.

The Minister instructed that compensation should be paid in respect of the following :—

				Amount claimed.	Amount paid.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
11 and 12, Warwick Buildings	...	...	...	28 10 0	28 10 0
26, Fairview Road	...	...	...	12 0 0	12 0 0
3—7, Field View, Cottages	...	...	...	No claim	—
1 and 2, Dovedale Court	...	...	...	150 2 2	Not settled yet.
3, Hartley Place	...	...	...	7 10 0	7 10 0
3, 4, Providence Cottages	...	...	...	15 0 0	15 0 0
5, Providence Cottages	...	...	...	28 10 0	7 10 0

Future Action.

A survey of any remaining defective properties is now being made with the object of bringing these to the notice of the Public Health Committee at an early date.

Cyanide Fumigation.

During 1935 authority was given by the Public Health Committee under Sec. 82 of the Housing Act, 1935, for the cyanide fumigation of condemned houses before demolition, in order to prevent the spread of vermin in the salvaged materials.

In all cases where infestation with bugs is proved or suspected, the furniture of families removed from clearance areas is subjected to cyanide fumigation by a specialist firm in the process of removal.

The furniture is removed from two or three houses in a special van to a site adapted for the purpose of cyanide fumigation. The bedding, however, is not subjected to fumigation, but is disinfected in the Corporation high pressure steam disinfecter.

In the case of cyanide fumigation of occupied bug infested houses it has been decided to keep the houses empty for 48 hours to ensure complete dispersion of the gas before reoccupation.

Two Council houses have been set aside as hostels for families temporarily displaced.

The number of cyanide fumigations carried out during 1935 was as follows :—

44 Council houses	} Total 90.
13 Re-conditioned houses	...	...
33 Houses prior to demolition	...	...

In addition, the belongings of the majority of families moved from clearance areas, etc., were subjected to cyanide fumigation.

OVERCROWDING.

Overcrowding Survey, 1935 Act.

This Act among other things imposed duties on local authorities to cause a survey to be made in order to ascertain how many dwellings were overcrowded according to certain prescribed standards, to make a report on the state of overcrowding revealed by the survey and to submit proposals to the Minister for the provision of the new houses required to abate the overcrowding.

In the Minister's memorandum an unexpected concession was made with the object of reducing the time required for the survey. This allowed of the making of a "Preliminary Survey" in which the number of measurements required could be reduced by excluding from the first computation houses clearly not overcrowded.

It was felt however, that in its application to Cheltenham, the intention of the Act would be carried out more accurately and with less confusion by a complete survey in the first place, and that although this would take rather more time it would be no more expensive in the end and indeed might be less so.

In his memorandum the Minister said 'that a comprehensive examination including measurement was regarded as the ideal form of survey and that measurement would ultimately be generally necessary.'

It was also felt that in making the rough estimates allowed, inaccuracies might arise. Further, it will be the duty of the Authority to supply landlords or occupiers with a statement as to the number of persons allowed to occupy a dwelling, according to the standards of the Act.

The complete survey has provided all the information required accurately and the necessity for engaging fresh enumerators and disturbing householders a second time has been avoided.

In November the Public Health Committee appointed a staff for the work consisting of six enumerators and one supervising enumerator-clerk and the survey is now completed.

The standard of maximum accommodation for any house as defined by the act is the lesser number arrived at by two calculations, one depending on the number of rooms in the house and the other on the size of those rooms. There is also a sex segregation standard. For the purpose of the calculation the definition of room includes a living room but not a bathroom or scullery and there is a discount for children under ten.

If a dwelling is not overcrowded according to the standards of the act, sex segregation is impossible only in the case of a dwelling consisting of a single room, but it must be remembered, that in many cases, in order to provide sex segregation, living rooms must be used as bedrooms and it is not likely that this is actually done in practice to any great extent. In a number of cases married couples must sleep apart and brothers sleep with brothers-in-law and sisters with sisters-in-law or with female

lodgers, so that in a great number of houses not actually overcrowded according to the standards of the Act, there is still a sex segregation problem of considerable magnitude.

The maximum number of persons allowed to occupy a house, arrived at by the calculations mentioned above, is called the 'permitted number,' and this number will at some future date become a necessary piece of information contained in rent books.

In carrying out the survey, in order to include all houses intended by the act to be surveyed, an arbitrary standard of a gross assessment of £30 was fixed as defining a house suitable for the occupation of the working classes. This is a high standard but, in actual practice it was found necessary to inspect houses of higher assessments so as to include parts of houses and basements occupied as separate dwellings.

The supervising enumerator and his assistants must be congratulated on the manner in which the survey has been carried out.

The following tables show at a glance the position revealed by the survey : (1) In relation to the Borough as a whole : (2) In relation to Corporation houses alone.

TABLE 1.

Table Showing Degree of Overcrowding Found.

This table shows that although the percentage of overcrowded houses found is as high as 3.05%, in more than two-thirds of the cases overcrowding was caused by the presence of not more than one person in excess of the permitted number. On the other hand the standard is not a high one.

Of the 313 dwellings definitely overcrowded :

										Persons. (Child under 10= $\frac{1}{2}$)
126	were	found	to	be	overcrowded	to	the	extent	of	$\frac{1}{2}$
91	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1
46	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	$1\frac{1}{2}$
26	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2
8	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	$2\frac{1}{2}$
6	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3
5	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	$3\frac{1}{2}$
4	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4
1	was	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	5

That is, the 313 houses were found to be overcrowded to the extent of $351\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

TABLE (2) see next page.

TABLE 2.

CHELTENHAM SURVEY (1935 Overcrowding Act).

Summary showing Completed Surveys, Total Families, Total Rooms, Overcrowding and Border-Line Cases.

	DISTRICT 1 St. Peter's	DISTRICT 2 St. Paul's	DISTRICT 3 Fairview and All Saints'	DISTRICT 4 College Ward and Leckhampton	DISTRICT 5 Town Centre and The Park	DISTRICT 6 Lansdown and St. Mark's	COUNCIL HOUSES	TOTALS	PERCENTAGES of Over-crowding found
Completed Surveys ... (Structurally Separate Houses)	1823	1181	1899	1645	1227	1360	1126	10260	3·05% of structurally separate houses
Total Families ...	1830	1295	2085	1830	1320	1483	1129	10972	2·85% of Families
Total No. of Rooms measured	8116	5989	9810	8292	5858	6759	4443	49267	Border-line Cases, etc. Overcrowded within 2 years owing to increas- ing ages of children
Overcrowded Families ...	61 (=3·3%)	42 (=3·2%)	47 (=2·2%)	33 (=1·8%)	18 (=1·4%)	21 (=1·4%)	91 (=8%)	313 (=3·05%)	31 Families
Border-Line Cases ...	34	27	33	29	14	26	61	224	Border-line Cases. 224 Families

COUNCIL HOUSES.

Houses Surveyed	Families	Overcrowded	Overcrowded within 2 years	Percentage of Overcrowding	Border-line Cases
1126	1129	91	16	8%	61

Degree of Overcrowding in Council Houses. — The 91 houses found to be overcrowded were overcrowded to the extent of 114½ persons.

	Folly Lane	The Moors	Pilley Crescent	Pates Avenue	St. Mark's	Miscellaneous Swindon Road, Hope Street, Cobham Road	Whaddon Avenue	New Whaddon Estate
No. of families overcrowded according to Housing Estate	39	18	8	1	3	15	6	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Further statistical and other information and all matters relating to meat inspection will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

MILK.

Graded Milks.

There are now three firms retailing Certified or Grade A. Tuberculin Tested milk in the town. One designated supply was discontinued during the year owing to unsatisfactory analyses. Only one firm now holds a licence to produce and sell Certified milk.

The New Milk Special Designations Order, which comes into force on 1st June, 1936, introduces a number of very important changes.

In future the single designation "Tuberculin Tested" will cover the two grades mentioned above, though the word Certified can be added if the milk is bottled on the farm. The County Council becomes the licensing authority in the place of the Minister of Health.

The bacteriological standard is to be reduced in severity to that previously required for Grade A. Tuberculin Tested milk (see below), though after the end of 1936 the methylene blue reduction test for cleanliness will replace the total bacterial count standard. Absence of coliform organisms in 1/100 of a c.c. will then remain as the only bacteriological standard.

During 1935, 53 samples were submitted for analysis to Mr. R. H. Ellis, County Analyst, Gloucester.

The existing Bacteriological Standard for certified milk is as follows :—"The milk must not contain more than 30,000 organisms per c.c. and must not contain the coliform bacillus in 1/10 c.c."

For Grade A. (Tuberculin Tested) :—"The milk must not contain more than 200,000 organisms per c.c. and must not contain the coliform bacillus in 1/100 c.c."

The following statement for each farm, shows the number of samples which complied with the standard and the number which did not.

Farm.	Grade of Milk.	No. of samples which satisfied the standard.	No. of samples below standard.
A	Certified	5	6 (This farm discontinued the supply of milk as certified).
B	"	12	2
C	Grade A. (T.T.) ...	13	1
D	" "	13	1

Pasteurised Milk.

Licences for the production and sale of Pasteurised milk are issued by local authorities.

This Authority grants two licences which are renewable annually. The second licence was only issued at the close of the year. In one case only is the pasteurising plant situated in the Borough.

Samples submitted for analysis have conformed with a standard which requires not more than 100,000 organisms per c.c. (There is no coliform bacillus standard).

During 1935, seven samples were submitted for analysis and all proved satisfactory.

An unfavourable report was, however, received with regard to one of the licensed supplies from a neighbouring borough where it was supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme.

The matter was reported to the manager and every effort was made to discover the cause of the failure and to prevent a recurrence.

Bacteriological Examinations of Ordinary Milk.

Only one or two examinations were possible owing to pressure of other work. The results were satisfactory.

Accredited Milk Scheme.

The Cheltenham Authority is prepared to assist the County in taking samples where farms are licensed for the production of this grade of milk. No farms in the Borough were licensed for the production of accredited milk during 1935.

Removal of Dairy and Milk Producing Farm from the Registers.

As a result of a report by the Medical Officer of Health on a dairy and an associated milk producing farm, to the effect that the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Orders were not being properly complied with, the Public Health Committee threatened to take proceedings unless the necessary works were carried out.

Temporary improvements were put in hand at once but at the termination of the contract period under the Milk Marketing Board's Scheme, rather than face the complete demands of the Health Department, the licence under the Milk and Dairies Order was surrendered.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS' ACTS.

Return of Articles submitted to the Public Analyst during the year 1935 and the result of such analyses.

I am indebted to the Superintendent of Police (A. J. Wayman) for the information concerning the operation of the Acts during 1935.

One hundred and thirty-nine samples of the materials named below were collected for analysis.

Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.	Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.
Milk	76	Brought forward ...	109
Butter	2	Pepper	2
Margarine	3	Coffee	2
Skimmed Milk	4	Vinegar	3
Dried Milk	1	Pickles	3
Ice Cream	3	Pork Sausages	1
Cheese	2	Olive Oil	3
Glucose, Solid	1	Liquid Paraffin	1
Glucose, Liquid	1	Bicarbonate of Soda	4
Jam	5	Tartaric Acid	3
Raisins	2	Lemonade Crystals	3
Currants	2	Cordial	1
Oatmeal	2	Mineral Water	1
Linseed Meal	3	Cider	2
Cornflower	2	Beer	1
Carried forward ...	109	Total	139

There was one prosecution during 1935. This was a case in which vinegar was alleged to be adulterated. The case was, however, dismissed.

An analysis of a sample of black currant jam showed that the amount of sulphur dioxide preservative present was slightly in excess of the amount allowed by the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations. Proceedings were not taken in this case.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

The County Council as the Food and Drugs' Authority is responsible for the registration of premises under this Act.

A certificate of registration for the sale of artificial cream on premises situated in Cheltenham was issued by the County on 29th June, 1935.

The Prevalence Of, and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases, 1935.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	36	24	2
Diphtheria	35	32	1
(Typhoid) Fever	—	—	—
(Paratyphoid) Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	} 1
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	7	
Pneumonia	21	—	28
Erysipelas	15	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	1	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1935.

Cases.			Vision un-impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
6	6	—	6	—	—	—

Number of Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the last five years.

Disease.	1931	1932	1933	1934	* 1935	Yearly Average.
Diphtheria	64	28	27	27	35	36·2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	38	102	189	69	36	86·8
Puerperal Fever	3	1	—	3	1	1·6
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	13	12	10	13	11·4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	6	1·4
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	1	2	—	·8
Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	2	—	1	1	·8
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	2	—	—	·4
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid	—	2	5	—	—	1·4
Dysentery	—	1	—	1	—	·4
Pneumonia	33	23	44	33	21	30·8
Erysipelas	12	8	20	22	15	15·4

*Change of Boundary, 1935.

NOTES ON THE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1935.

Influenza.

There was a very mild epidemic of Influenza in March 1935. The number of deaths ascribed to this disease was only 12.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified during 1935 was 35 compared with 27 for 1934. Of these 32 were admitted to the Delancey Fever Hospital. There was one death. This was of a boy aged five in whose case Tracheotomy became necessary. He died 14 days later of Septic Pneumonia.

The type of disease remained mild and, as usual a number of the cases were examples of comparatively trivial throat infections diagnosed as Diphtheria as a result of positive swabs. The cases were scattered and there was no special focus of infection.

Scarlet Fever.

The decline in the number of cases which was so marked in 1934 continued throughout 1935. There were 36 notifications, compared with 69 in the previous year. A number of the cases presented rather severe throat infections but the type of disease was, on the whole, mild.

Two deaths were ascribed to Scarlet Fever during 1935. Their occurrence breaks a record of nearly ten years in which no death from this cause was recorded. The cases were unusual and they were very closely associated. Both were clinically of a septic type and occurred in old people. One was a female aged 70 and the other a male aged 90, and in both cases, though other morbid conditions existed, a streptococcal infection producing a Scarlet Fever type of rash was definitely the final cause of death.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever.

No case was notified during 1935. The death from this disease recorded in the Registrar General's Causes of Death (Page 7) relates to a person who was previously a Cheltenham resident but who died in the County Mental Hospital from Typhoid which was presumably contracted in that Institution.

Polioencephalitis.

One death was recorded from this cause. The disease was of the fulminating variety and the illness only lasted a few hours.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

It will be seen that six cases of this disease were notified. The definition of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is a very wide one and if the regulations are carried out to the letter, the resulting notifications are likely to be very numerous. During 1935 all the notifications received were from one source, and it is unlikely that any of the cases were examples of the serious infection for which the regulations were framed. All made complete recoveries.

Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.

During 1935, 13 cases were notified as Puerperal Pyrexia and one as Puerperal Fever. There was one death from infection.

Six of the cases were examples of slight Pyrexia complicating an otherwise normal puerperium.

Four were severe but made good recoveries. Two were definitely due to kidney infections and one was a case of Cancer from which condition the patient died shortly after confinement.

The investigation into the circumstances of one very severe case showed that an unqualified maternity nurse had been at the same time associated with the nursing of another severe case outside the Borough. As she was unqualified she was exempt from giving the usual notices and was outside the control of the supervising authority. The new Midwives Act will provide a remedy for this serious state of affairs.

Disinfection.

As in past years disinfection was carried out by the Public Health Department. The work includes the disinfection of private houses in connection with cases of infectious disease, and all necessary disinfections at the Victoria Home and other nursing homes.

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION.

Delancey Fever Hospital.

All new probationers are subjected to Schick and Dick tests and positive reactors are immunised. For diphtheria immunisation a preparation of Toxoid is used, preceded in each case by a Malony Skin test.

Measles Serum Prophylaxis.

On one or two occasions the whole blood of parents has been used to protect other children in a ward where a case of measles has unexpectedly developed. In practice, 10 c.c. of the parent's blood is withdrawn and is immediately injected into buttock muscles of the child in the ward.

This treatment has been very successful in modifying the type of disease contracted or in entirely preventing an attack.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.

This Clinic commenced its activities during 1935. The School Clinic premises have been chosen for the work as they provide an excellent waiting room, facilities for sterilization and are conveniently central. The treatment is given on Thursday afternoons when sufficient cases have been gathered. One of the Nurses is in attendance as an assistant to the Doctor.

The Committee was fortunate in being able to secure the services of Dr. Haslett of the Bacteriological Department of the General Hospital for this work.

The method adopted so far involves in each case three injections of Diphtheria Prophylactic Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules at weekly intervals.

Schick testing has not been carried out in any case as a preliminary but parents have been advised to submit their children for this test after 6 months in order to confirm the existence of immunity and appointments for this are now being offered. About $\frac{1}{3}$ have accepted up to the present date. Out of 397 cases, 372 received the full course of 3 injections while the remaining 25 failed to attend again after receiving one or two.

DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

The Delancey Hospital is under the management of a Board of Trustees constituted by a Deed of Endowment dated 28th April, 1871. This Deed made provisions for the purchase of land and the erection of a "Fever Hospital for the benefit of the town of Cheltenham and the neighbourhood thereof." The trustees originally construed this to mean the area of the Cheltenham Union, but for many years the Trust Area has been considered to include Cheltenham, Charlton Kings and the old Cheltenham Rural District.

The Hospital at present serves the above-named areas and receives patients on agreed terms from the new North Cotswold Rural District and certain areas recently added to the Cheltenham Rural District.

The total number of cases admitted during 1935 was 118 compared with 173 for 1934. Of these 69 were admitted from the Trust Area.

The following table shows the diseases from which those admitted were suffering :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	36	Erysipelas	...	...	5
Diphtheria	...	...	48	Measles	...	...	3
Poliomyelitis	...	...	14	Dysentery	...	...	1
(North Cotswold District)							

Other Cases and Cases for Observation ... 11

The normal bed accommodation of the hospital is 74, including a block which belongs to Cheltenham College, providing 14 beds (calculated on the standard of 144 square feet of floor space per bed).

There is also a Smallpox Hospital of 12 beds, under the same management, situated at Longhill, 4 miles distant from Cheltenham. The capital cost and running expenses are shared in agreed proportions with the County authority, who have a call on the accommodation, should cases of smallpox occur in the districts which the hospital was built to serve.

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER (ISOLATION HOSPITALS) SCHEME, 1936.

This scheme which is at present under consideration, if adopted, will make the County responsible for the cost of all hospital treatment of infectious disease. It is difficult to see how, under such conditions, the authorities forming the Trust Area can retain their existing advantages.

It has been suggested that Cheltenham will be compensated for this loss because urbanised areas provide a relatively greater number of cases of infectious disease on account of the greater tendency for infection to spread in towns. The facts are, that during the last 10 years, Cheltenham has had 1,560 cases of infectious disease of a type normally

treated in isolation hospitals compared with a total of 10,564 cases in the County as a whole (including Cheltenham). Taking the relative populations as 50,000 and 330,000 the County is 6.6 times the size of Cheltenham and has had 6.7 times the amount of infectious disease.

Among a number of disadvantages which would accrue to Cheltenham under the scheme, there is one circumstance which suggests some possible gain. Records show that in the past a decidedly smaller percentage of rural cases in this county have been treated in isolation hospitals. Therefore, the 28% share of the total cost which Cheltenham would be called upon to shoulder under the proposed scheme might not in practice prove to be so excessively out of proportion to the relative amounts of accommodation actually required by the borough and the remainder of the county. That is, the relative proportion of infectious disease cases in the borough and in the county as a whole, 1 to 6.7, is probably not a true indication of the relative requirements for hospital accommodation.

It must be realised, however, that in the future the percentage of rural cases treated in hospitals is likely to increase.

TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Mortality during 1935.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—
5—10 „	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 „	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	1
15—20 „	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
20—25 „	3	2	2	1	—	5	1	—
25—35 „	6	7	1	1	6	4	2	—
35—45 „	6	4	1	—	4	1	—	—
45—55 „	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	1
55—65 „	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	22	23	9	9	14	11	4	2
(Official) Registrar General's Figures					15	11	3	3

Number of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the last five years.

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	Yearly Average
Pulmonary	42	50	55	39	45	46.2
Non-Pulmonary	9	12	21	23	18	16.6

Treatment and isolation of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis is a disease notifiable under special regulations. In the case of a chronic disease of this nature there is a tendency for some cases to remain unnotified. One reason for this is the very natural assumption, not always justified, that the case has already been notified.

Neglect to notify is commonly discovered when the registration of a death from tuberculosis necessitates a search for the purpose of removing the name from the Register. The usual explanation of failure to notify, if not the one given above is usually that the diagnosis only became apparent shortly before death or even only as a result of Post Mortem examination.

Failure to notify tuberculosis in Cheltenham is not common. Unless the reason was obvious, a letter is written to the doctor certifying the death, asking for an explanation.

Treatment and isolation of patients is a responsibility of the County, but isolation, apart from that associated with treatment can as a rule only be provided in advanced cases.

A confidential register of cases is kept in the department, and each week a list of new notifications and details as to the movement of cases in and out of hospital is sent to the County Medical Officer of Health. Also, every quarter, the County Medical Officer of Health is provided with details of cases removed from the register.

The tuberculosis death rates for 1935 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.51	} Per 1,000 of
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.12	
		Population.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity Work of the Victoria Home.

STATISTICS FOR 1935.

Maternity Service.

(1) *Ward Cases.*

		Midwifery Cases.	Maternity Cases.
Borough Cases	92 comprising	69	23
County Cases	55 „	30	25
	—	—	—
Totals	147 comprising	99	48

The average duration of stay in hospital of the cases admitted to the wards for confinement was 14 days.

The number of calls for medical aid arising from the 147 midwifery cases attended in the ward was 58.

(2) *District Cases.*

Midwifery	...	...	...	329
Maternity	...	...	...	104
				—
Total	...			433

Ante Natal Clinic (held at the Victoria Home).

Attendances by expectant Mothers during 1935 :—

	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
(a) Number of Attendances	1397	5
(b) Number of individual Mothers attending ...	430	5
(c) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (b) ...	57	0'66

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

A report on this subject by the Medical Officer was presented at the January (1936) meeting of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The matter was raised in connection with the accommodation of patients whose home conditions were considered to be unsuitable for confinement.

It had always been a rule of the Victoria Home Committee that the Borough Grant only covered the admission of cases requiring special nursing, that is, those presenting some abnormality.

In the Autumn of 1934 an arrangement had been made that in exceptional cases patients should be admitted to the Victoria Home on account of bad housing conditions, but it was felt by some that accommodation should be made more freely available for these cases.

The report of the Medical Officer contained a quotation of some length from the 1933 report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health in which he reviewed the modern trend of opinion with regard to institutional treatment of maternity cases and the lessening prejudice against the accommodation provided by Poor Law hospitals.

The number of cases provided for by the Cheltenham Poor Law Institution annually is about 20, so that full use is by no means made of this accommodation. The staff, which includes 4 midwives, has been very successful in the management of cases.

The difficulty in the way of the admission of more cases to the Victoria Home is one of accommodation, and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee decided that normal cases requiring institutional treatment on account of unsuitable home conditions, if unable to pay the fee of the Victoria Home, must seek admission to the Swindon Road Institution maternity ward.

The possibility of the enlargement of the Victoria Home is however still under consideration.

Home Helps.

The Council has allocated a sum of £25 to be used in providing "Home Helps" during the confinement of the mother when suitable assistance is not otherwise available. This money is placed at the disposal of the Victoria Home because the district midwives are considered to be the most likely persons to know when assistance of this nature is required. There was no call on this fund during 1935.

Sterilized Outfits.

Sterilized outfits are provided for use by the District Midwives in suitable cases. These were used on 6 occasions during 1935.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The number of Midwives giving notice of their intention to practice in the Borough during the year was 25, and there remained practising at the end of the year 21.

The following is a summary of cases attended by midwives who had given notice of intention to practice :—

Capacity in which Cases were attended.

	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Victoria Home Midwives	428	152
Midwives attached to the Maternity Ward of Cheltenham Guardians Institution	20	1
Midwives in Private Nursing Homes	0	37
Midwives in Private Practice ...	32	11
	<hr/> 480	<hr/> 201

Note.—A midwife acts as a Maternity Nurse when a doctor has been engaged to deliver the patient. Under these circumstances the Midwife must, according to the rules, send for the Doctor at the onset of labour and she must not leave the house before he arrives. The Doctor remains responsible for the case throughout the lying-in period.

Inspection.

The total number of births notified during 1935 was 756, of these 480 were attended by midwives and 276 by Doctors. The Registrar General gives the number of births as 663, but this figure is arrived at after correction for transfers and it represents births of children whose parents were normally resident in Cheltenham. The Victoria Home provided for 55 county cases and the other maternity homes frequently take cases from outside areas.

Apart from the work of the Victoria Home there is very little scope for midwifery in Cheltenham. Of the 6 midwives practising privately, one attended 27 midwifery cases and 8 maternity cases, the remaining 5 midwives attended together only 5 midwifery and 3 maternity cases.

The Maternity Ward of the Infirmary provided accommodation for only 23 cases during the year though the staff includes as many as 4 qualified midwives.

Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1935 :—

Notification of Still Births	12
„ Death of Infant	3
„ Death of Mother	—
„ Artificial Feeding being adopted ...	7
„ Liability to be a Source of Infection	1
„ Having laid out of dead body ...	—
	<hr/>
Total number of Notices received	23

Medical assistance was called for on 220 separate occasions, which is 45.8% of the midwifery cases attended. The conditions necessitating this are summarised as follows :—

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{ Albuminuria	6
	{ General Ailments	12
(b) Miscarriage and Premature Labour	... ..	3
	{ Perineal Injuries	71
	{ Delayed Labour	38
	{ Abnormal Presentations	10
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{ Abnormal Haemorrhage	6
	{ Retained Products of Conception	1
	{ Other conditions	6
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{ Rise of Temperature	10
	{ Other conditions	18
	{ Feebleness	6
(e) Condition of the Infant	{ Inflamed Eyes	8
	{ Deformities	1
	{ Other conditions	24
		—
Total		220

MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were 3 deaths of Cheltenham residents during 1935 from causes associated with pregnancy. One of these was from Sepsis.

An extension of the Maternity Services was provided during the year as a result of the decision of the Committee in January to provide Consultant advice in necessitous cases not only for Puerperal Infection, but also in any case presenting a complication associated with pregnancy.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

The Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of 1935, were as follows :—

Nursing Homes, medical and surgical	... ..	7
Maternity Homes only	... ..	5
Combined General Nursing and Maternity	... ..	6

The Maternity Ward at the Swindon Road Institution is visited, but is not included in the list given above.

During 1935 one Home was registered for Medical, Surgical or Maternity cases and one small Maternity Home which had been closed was reopened.

Of the 18 Nursing Homes registered, three are large ones with operating theatres. These take Medical, Surgical and Maternity cases ; in one of them the maternity accommodation is a branch in an entirely separate house under a special staff. Six of the Homes as a rule take chronic medical cases only. Three small Homes take medical or maternity cases and one takes uncertified mental cases.

Of the specialised Maternity Homes one is the special branch home mentioned above, one is the Victoria Home, details of which are given above, and the other 4 are very small Homes containing only 8 beds in all.

INFANT WELFARE.

Work of Health Visitors, January 1st—December 31st, 1935.

No. of Children on Register	...	...	...	...	3,128
„ Children Visited (a) 1 year and under	...	...	...	...	1,113
„ „ „ (b) over 1 year	...	...	...	...	2,253
„ Un-notified Births discovered	...	...	...	...	11
„ Un-notified Still-Births discovered	...	...	...	...	1
„ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (1 year and under)	...	...	...	...	4,077
„ „ „ (over 1 year)	...	...	...	...	4,997
„ First Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	635
„ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	...	...	...	...	331
„ Special visits to Mothers	...	...	...	...	296
„ Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited	...	...	...	...	5
„ Chicken-pox cases visited	...	...	...	...	24
„ Measles cases visited	...	...	...	...	19
„ Whooping-cough cases visited	...	...	...	...	35
„ Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	...	3

Treatment of Ear, Nose and Throat and Eye Diseases.

Arrangements completed during the year enable the Medical Officers in charge of Infant Welfare Centres to send these cases to Hospital for the opinion of a specialist and treatment when required.

Dental Treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under 5.

This work has increased considerably during the last year or two and the Dentist is now occupied for the whole of each Saturday morning in the treatment of these cases. A new basis for calculating the liability of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to the Education Committee for the services of the Dentist became necessary. This basis will be the respective times given up by him to Maternity and Child Welfare and Education work.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is to be responsible for the payment of one eleventh of the total cost of the Dental Service for the year and in addition one fifty-fifth of the salary of the Assistant School Medical Officer who administers anaesthetics.

The following table shows the work done by the School Dentist for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during 1935.

					Mothers.	Infants.
Attendances	...	...	...	...	244	54
Extractions	...	...	...	...	19	9
Extractions (under gas)	...	...	...	...	441	58
Fillings	...	...	...	...	11	21
Attendances for other treatment—						
Impressions, fitting dentures, etc.	...	...	...	...	108	—
Dentures fitted	...	...	...	...	34	—

Children Acts.

The following figures show the extent of the year's work :—

Number of visits by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	171
Number of visits by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	59
Number of individual children on the register during the year...					61
Number of individual children on the register at the end of year					42
Number of children who died during the year	...	...			—
Number of Foster Mothers on the register at the end of the year					36

The home visits necessitated by these Acts are made by the Health Visitors in the case of children under 5 and by the School Nurses where children between the ages of 5 and 9 are concerned.

In four cases children were received before the necessary notice was given. Proceedings were not taken as the Committee considered that the plea of ignorance of the requirements of the Act rendered this course inadvisable. Letters were written by the Town Clerk pointing out the requirements of the Act and warning the offenders that proceedings would be taken in the case of any further breach of the Act.

In January 1935, Miss Quinlan, an Inspector of the Medical Department of the Ministry of Health paid a visit to enquire into the administration of the provisions of the Act. It is understood that a favourable report resulted.

No sanctions for reception of children were given under Section 3 of the 1908 Act to persons previously the subjects of complaint nor in respect of premises previously found unfit or dangerous. No order was obtained under Section 67 of the Act of 1932 for removal of a child to a place of safety, though in one case it was found necessary to threaten this procedure.

Grants of Milk.

Number of pints of Milk provided free during the year...	...	59003			
Number of cases receiving assistance daily (average)	...	154			
Of these the average number of families receiving two pints daily was	8				
Number of Pints, per Live Birth	...	93			
	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931
Cost of Milk ...	£638/4/10	£461/6/9	£296	£313	£250

Supply of Milk to necessitous Mothers and Children.

Members of the Council are aware of the growing charge under this heading. This is due not only to increasing demand but to the activities of the Milk Marketing Board.

The increase in cost of contract supplies is due to elimination of competition by the fixed prices of the Board. There has also been an increase in the price to the general public and it is this which tells most heavily on the budget of the poor family. Public Health is likely to be affected for the worse by this state of affairs.

The increase in price to the public has no doubt also increased the demand for free milk. The supply is controlled by certain regulations and a limiting scale of incomes adopted by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Until recently it had been a local custom not to grant more than one pint to one family however many children under the age of five it contained. Some poor families are now receiving two pints a day and the number of these is steadily increasing.

It is impossible to predict the limit which this distribution will reach, though it seems likely that the increase will continue for some time under the existing scale of incomes.

Appointment of Third Health Visitor.

The recommendation by the Minister of Health following a visit of one of his inspectors, that more visits should be paid to children between the ages of 12 months and five years necessitated an addition to the staff. A third Health Visitor was accordingly appointed and commenced her duties on the 11th June. A revised scheme for visiting was drawn up so that children are now visited nearly twice as frequently between the ages of 12 months and five years as they were before. A total of 4,997 visits were paid to children in this age group during 1935 compared with 2,625 visits in 1934. so that the requirement of the Minister is being satisfied in a very practical manner.

The appointment necessitated a redivision of the town into three working areas.

The divisions decided on are roughly as follows :—

- (1) Leckhampton area ; bounded mainly by the Promenade and High Street, but including a portion of Fairview and all the Whaddon Housing Estates, with an average of 145 new cases requiring visits.
- (2) A central area north-east of the High Street extending from area no. 1 up to and including Queen Street, with 176 births.
- (3) The remainder of the Borough, including the very wide country district of Arle, with 154 births.

It is considered that the comparatively low birth-rate figure for area no. 1 is a compensation for the extra work entailed by the more hilly nature of the district and there are special reasons for considering that no. 3 area is not too large, in spite of the wide district to be covered.

Variations in the birth rates and movements of the population in connection with slum clearance will no doubt necessitate adjustments of these areas from time to time.

The appointment of a third Health Visitor will render the work of Health Visiting more efficient in many ways and nursing assistance is now available for other necessary services.

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE ANNUAL REPORT.

April 1st, 1935—March 31st, 1936.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Lock Mellersh, President of the Association for permission to include this report with the Cheltenham Health Report as has been customary for many years.

Meetings of Mothers' Clubs for Babies and Children up to Five Years.

At Grosvenor Street, every Tuesday	...	2.30
At Clare Street Hall, every Wednesday	...	2.30
At Baker Street Institute, every Thursday	...	2.30
At St. Mark's, every Wednesday	...	2.30
(Methodist Sunday Schools, Gloucester Road).		

Attendances at Grosvenor Street (46 meetings)			
1,890 Infants	...	1,876 Toddlers	3,766
Attendances at Baker Street (46 meetings)			
1,563 Infants	...	1,858 Toddlers	3,421
Attendances at Clare Street (46 meetings)			
1,329 Infants	...	1,343 Toddlers	2,672
Attendances at St. Mark's (45 meetings)			
1,107 Infants	...	1,248 Toddlers	2,355
			<hr/>
Total			12,214

Number of individual Children attending the four Centres :			
Grosvenor Street, 402 ;	Clare Street, 264 ;		
Baker Street, 380 ;	St. Marks, 219	...	1,265
Visits paid by Club Visitor (since April 1st, 1935)			1,295

Annual Report, 1935—36.

It is with a sense of very real loss that we have to report the death of Miss A. Hanson, with her passing we feel a friend and most valuable worker has gone from us, not only had she been our Hon. Treasurer for over 10 years and guarded and guided our finances with much wisdom and skill, but it was also due to her care that the Dispensing at all the Centres has run so smoothly and at so very little cost to the Association. She was a worker that it will be extremely difficult to replace, as she was known and loved by so many of the Mothers, and she brought much human sympathy and friendship with her to the Centres.

Miss Porcher is another helper whom we shall miss very much, she resigned her position at the weighing table at Highbury, in January. She has always been a most regular and constant worker, and we hope we shall continue to have her help whenever possible, and her interest always.

There are two new Doctors on the staff, namely Dr. Robert Harvey who took Dr. Wingate's place at Highbury, and Doctor Gwendolen Brown who followed Dr. Billings at Clare Street. Dr. Billings resigned in the autumn, she was one of the pioneers of Infant Welfare Work in Cheltenham and the success of the work in its early days was due in no small measure to her interest and enthusiasm. She gave a farewell

tea-party and entertainment to all past and present Mothers at the Clare Street Centre, and during the evening a presentation was made to her on behalf of the Mothers and Committee.

We are very fortunate to have secured the help of Mr. E. W. Garland as Hon. Treasurer, and we welcome him and all the new helpers at the Centres. To Mrs. Appleby also, who is now in charge of the Dispensing we tender our grateful thanks as well as to all our other workers for their regular attendance and most loyal support.

The work of instruction in Birth Control methods which, since its commencement in 1933, has been in the hands of Dr. Billings has now been taken over by Dr. Brown, and 12 new cases have been for advice.

In the summer there was an outing to Evesham, to which 59 Mothers came, we were unfortunate in that a thunderstorm commenced on our arrival and the rain continued without ceasing during the three hours we were there, however, impromptu games, competitions and singing were organized, which kept everyone cheerful.

At the Baker Street and Grosvenor Street Centres very large attendances have been made during the winter, and on several occasions at Baker Street the numbers have been well over 100 Mothers in addition to approximately 150 children, and during the last quarter the average attendance of children was 97. Clare Street also has increased enormously and its average attendance is almost double what it was two years ago. St. Mark's maintains a steady average. There are 1,801 more attendances than last year, though the actual number of sessions is two less. These high figures are most encouraging, but at the same time it makes the opening of a fifth Centre a matter for very urgent consideration, as it is obvious that these large numbers cannot be satisfactorily dealt with, the Health Nurse and the Doctors cannot give the individual attention which is such an essential part of the work, and the Mothers are often so late getting home that they are discouraged from attending as regularly as is advisable in a number of cases. The addition of the third Health Visitor has helped tremendously in the smooth working of the Centres.

The Victoria Home Pupil Midwife is now in attendance in the Doctor's room at Highbury. This is considered to be greatly to their advantage, and the change has been much appreciated by these nurses as now they have an increased opportunity for observing errors in diet and the minor ailments of infants.

The Highbury Centre will in future be called the Grosvenor Street Centre in order to avoid confusion with the new Highbury Schools.

A vest knitting competition was run at Clare Street in the early part of the year, in which considerable interest was shown, but the entries were small. A blackboard has been installed at this Centre on which the Health Nurse writes a weekly slogan on some subject connected with the work, and a brief talk is given.

The Christmas tea and entertainment, provided by the kindness of friends, was as popular as ever, about 290 Mothers attended and large quantities of cakes were consumed, but thanks to the generosity of those who gave cakes, we were able to meet their constant demands for more. The Masquerade Concert Party gave an excellent entertainment which was much applauded.

SUPERANNUATION EXAMINATIONS.

For the purpose of the Superannuation Act, new employees of the Corporation, before final appointment to designated posts, are medically examined by the Medical Officer of Health. Occasionally also medical examinations are made by courtesy for other authorities under which Cheltenham candidates have received appointments provisionally, but have been prevented from presenting themselves for examination locally.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

After an interval of three years it has been found possible to issue this journal again.

Lectures or talks given by the Medical Officer of Health during 1935 were as follows :

Subject : " Food."

Subject : "The School Medical Service."

Subject : "Good Health and how to keep it."

Subject : "The Rules of the Central Midwives' Board."

Subject : "Food,"

ANNUAL REPORT, 1935.

Sanitary Inspection of Area for the Year, 1935.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Cheltenham.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my ninth annual report as Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer for the Borough of Cheltenham.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health and the Home Office, tables giving full particulars of the inspections made, together with notes and local information will be found in the report.

The usual visitation of work in progress, drainage and sanitary work at institutions, schools, houses, business premises and workshops has been maintained, together with inspections made necessary by the Shop Acts.

The year under review has been marked by increased activity in relation to slum clearance, particularly in regard to individual unfit houses. The process of reconditioning by private owners and by the Local Authority of houses purchased has been materially assisted by the co-operation of the Housing Committee in offering accommodation to the displaced persons and by the increased assistance afforded by an additional district inspector.

The publicity of slum clearance and new housing has an immediate effect upon the public, and is reflected by the sudden increase in the number of complaints received by and enquiries made to the Health Department. Resourcefulness and tact are required to encourage patience during the period required for the service of notices, etc.

The staff changes include the appointment of Mr. J. F. Ursell, first as a temporary assistant and later as 3rd District Inspector, on account of the resignation of Mr. A. C. Gisborne who obtained a similar appointment under the County Borough of Wolverhampton. Mr. W. Grange of Keighley was appointed 4th District Inspector.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for their help and consideration shown to me in carrying out my duties as a sanitary officer.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

M.R. San. I.

May, 1936.

**The following Table shows the amount of Routine Inspection
Work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors.**

Details of Inspection—TABLE No. I.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS	...	...	...	...	15,978
WORK IN PROGRESS.					
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	4,693
INTERVIEWS.					
Number of interviews with Builders, Contractors, Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	850
DWELLING HOUSES.					
Number inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Acts, 1930)	...	...	...	...	200
Number found to be totally unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	145
" " " not in all respects fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	472
" inspected (special enquiries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	1,069
" " (ordinary inspections)	...	...	...	...	272
" " re infectious disease	...	...	...	...	79
" " after service of notice (re inspections)	...	...	...	...	887
" " re water supply	...	...	...	...	—
" " on complaint of Rent Restriction Act	...	...	...	...	—
" " re underground Sleeping Rooms (Sec. 20 H.A., 1930)	...	...	...	...	32
SCHOOLS.					
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	33
FACTORIES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	12
WORKSHOPS.					
Ordinary inspections	...	...	...	...	111
Domestic " "	...	...	...	...	5
Workplaces " "	...	...	...	...	—
Laundries " "	...	...	...	...	15
Outworkers' " "	...	...	...	...	24
BAKEHOUSES.					
Factory inspections	...	...	...	...	50
Ordinary " "	...	...	...	...	25
COWSHEDS AND FARMS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	28
DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	152
ICE CREAM PREMISES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	33
MILK SAMPLES.					
Number taken for Bacteriological Examinations	57

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of inspections	1,962
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PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Number of inspections	981
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BUTCHERS' AND GROCERS' SHOPS, COLD STORES, ETC.

Number of inspections	743
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OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of inspections	148
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FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Number of inspections	35
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number of inspections	228
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

Number of inspections	6
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FOOD SHOPS (TOTAL).

Number of inspections	969
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SHOPS' ACT, 1934.

Number of inspections	33
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of visits and inspections	1,340
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PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONVENIENCES.

Number of inspections	35
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PLACES LICENSED FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Number of inspections	12
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PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT.

Number of inspections	28
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SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Number of inspections	17
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TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Number of inspections	13
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MARKET STALLS AND FAIRS.

Number of inspections	345
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RAT INFESTATION.

Number of inspections	174
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

MINOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Number of inspections	17
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REFUSE TIPS.

Number of inspections	7
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Sanitary Improvements made and Defects remedied under the Supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE No. 2.

HOUSES.

Dwelling houses improved	301
Provided with sufficient w.c. and sanitary accommodation	1
" " " water supply	—
" " internal or separate water supply ...	31
Roofs overhauled and repaired	157
New floors laid or repaired	582
Yards and areas paved	97
Eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes renewed or repaired	351
Rainwater down pipes disconnected from drain ...	—
Rooms cleansed	388
Rooms repaired	287
Overcrowding abated	20
Disinfected after infectious disease	35

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences improved and cleansed	20
--	----

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	34
Found in an insanitary condition	—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	6
Nuisances found and abated	4

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Sanitary condition improved	1
Cleansed and limewashed	66
New Registrations	5

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS' PREMISES.

Cleansed	4
Sanitary condition improved	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES' PREMISES.

Cleansed and limewashed	22
Sanitary condition improved	4

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	9
Sanitary condition improved	—

DRAINS.

Opened and Examined (Sec. 41 P.H. Act, 1875)	...	44
Water tests applied to drains	... ..	413
Smoke " " " and soil pipes	... ..	211
New drains laid	... ..	235
Length in yards of stoneware pipe drains laid	... ..	1,993
" " of heavy cast iron drains laid	... ..	1,797
Manholes and inspection chambers provided	... ..	230
Intercepting traps fixed	... ..	143
Iron and stoneware gully traps fixed	... ..	386
Drains flushed	... ..	150

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Provision of septic tanks, filter beds and effluent drains	...	10
--	-----	----

SUBSOIL DRAINS.

Subsoil drains laid	6
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WATER CLOSETS.

New water closets built	28
New w.c. pans of the washdown type fixed	325
Flushing boxes fixed to w.c.'s	... ..	244
" " repaired	... ..	63
Water closets and drains unstopped	... ..	126
Defective and dirty w.c. pans	324

SOIL AND VENTILATING SHAFTS.

New soil and ventilating shafts fixed	212
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WASTE PIPES.

New waste pipes fixed and repaired	556
Trapped and disconnected	571
Siphonage or vent pipes fixed	280

SINKS.

New sinks and lavatory basins fixed	549
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ASH RECEPTACLES.

New moveable galvanised with covers provided	...	24
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notices sent to Masters and Mistresses of schools with regard to infectious disease	32
Notices sent to Parents with regard to infectious disease		32
" " " Public Library with regard to infectious disease	... ..	—
Articles of clothing disinfected	... ..	5,649
" " " etc., disinfected for outside Sanitary Authorities, etc.	... ..	1,537

NOTICES, ETC.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 15,978. In 579 houses and premises dealt with, nuisances to the number of 9,609 were discovered, of which 3,323 were abated, and in dealing with the sanitary defects from which they arose 190 preliminary or informal and 191 statutory or formal notices were served.

The number of letters received and dispatched by the department was 1,076. In order to supervise sanitary and housing work in progress 4,693 visits were made. The importance of inspection, in relation to reconditioning work cannot be over estimated as an almost daily visit is necessary in regard to individual houses and this work absorbs a considerable amount of time. The number of complaints received in the Health Department numbered 573 as against 432 in the previous year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT, ETC.

Numerous complaints in regard to smoke nuisance were received during the year and included one in regard to the local Gas Works. Because Cheltenham is essentially a residential town any abnormal degree of smoke is noticed. The principal offenders are factory laundries, a number of which have been established in the built-up areas. One firm, after experimenting with smoke consuming apparatus and coke fuel is installing a travelling grate with automatic firing on account of the high working pressure of steam required. One asphalt making plant that had been the subject of complaint has closed down, whilst another firm, after extensive experiments and alterations, have been required to make still further improvements in their plant in order to suppress the emission of dust. The general use of gas washing boilers and gas and electricity for heating and cooking, is a valuable contribution towards the remedy of the domestic smoke problem.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

1. Common Lodging Houses.

There is no change in regard to the number on the register which is 6. The number of inspections made of these premises in regard to the carrying out of the byelaws was 228 including one night inspection. The licences in respect of all the lodging houses are issued by the Council annually.

In one instance the registered keeper died, and owing to the bad conditions the owner's attention was called to the failure to re-register and the threat was made that the renewal of the licence would be withheld unless the lodging house was made satisfactory. Subsequently a new owner and keeper was registered and the necessary improvements and alterations were made.

2. Houses let-in-lodgings.

The number on the register is comparatively small and several will cease to exist owing to slum clearance activities but the overcrowding survey will no doubt reveal additional premises requiring registration.

3. Cellar Dwellings.

Underground sleeping rooms and basement dwellings are included under this heading. 32 inspections were made in this connection. S. 84 of the Housing Act 1935, has added powers of closing which will be of material assistance in this area. The local authority closed 12 of these dwellings during the year, and in one case accepted an undertaking to effect improvement. During the past 6 years no less than 70 habitations of this character have been the subject of closing orders, and cases have occurred where new owners have relet in ignorance of such closure. The Local Authority however, is determined to make an example of this contravention of the law and proceedings will be taken against owners in future.

4. Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Action was taken under S. 19 in regard to a caravan without proper water supply and w.c. accommodation, and in a case where a family occupied some vans the owner is moving to an adjacent dwelling. Where the occupiers have been established for a number of years and have a piped water service and proper w.c. accommodation with drainage no action has been taken.

5. Offensive Trades.

The following trades, businesses or manufactures, namely a bone-curer, a dealer in blood, a dealer in animal fats and butchers' waste, a manufacturer of manure from fish, fish offal, blood or other putrescible animal matter, and a tallow refiner, within the Borough are "offensive trades."

The name of one fat-melting concern was removed from the register of offensive trades, and the licence for a fish-fryer was extended for one year. No new applications were made during the year.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough, namely (a) 1 Fellmonger; (b) 1 Tripe boiler; (c) 2 dealers in Raw Hides and Skins; (d) 21 Fried Fish shops; (e) 18 dealers in Iron, Metal, Bones and Rabbit skins.

Inspections were made in regard to limewashing and general conduct under the respective bye-laws.

6. Slaughterhouses (Private).

The number of inspections made of these premises which are all registered and number 8, was 1,962. There is general observance of the bye-laws. One slaughterhouse was provided with new floors and drainage.

7. Slaughterhouse (Public Abattoir).

The municipal abattoir which has been modernised and well equipped receives the majority of animals slaughtered for consumption in Cheltenham and district, and a deficit of £224 on the year's working compares very favourably with other towns. The abattoir is under the direct control of the Sanitary Inspector with a Superintendent in charge. The actual staff for slaughter and dressing is provided by the butchers and meat traders, and I am pleased to report that the conduct generally is a credit to these men and to the Superintendent, whose tactful and conscientious execution of his duties is largely responsible for the satisfactory working of the abattoir.

Public Abattoir Trading Account, ending 31st March, 1935.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	INCOME.	£	s.	d.
Rates, Taxes, Insurance	41	10	11	Slaughtering Fees ...	369	14	2
Superintendent's Wages	163	0	1	Licences ...	2	12	0
Labour, Hauling and removal of offal ...	69	7	6				
Sundry painting, white- washing, repairs, etc.	133	6	9				
Electricity, lighting and power ...	19	9	3				
Coal and wood ...	21	7	10				
Sundry fittings and materials ...	37	13	3				
Printing, books, etc. ...	5	10	7				
Water Supply ...	9	1	1				
Stunning Apparatus ...	14	9	8				
Fee for Examination of Specimen ...	1	1	0				
Laundry Work ...	3	18	1				
	519	16	0				
Loan Charges—							
Contributions to Sink- ing Fund £30/0/0							
Interest (including Tax) ... £46/11/4							
	76	11	4	Deficit ...	224	1	2
Total	596	7	4	Total	596	7	4

8. Stables and other places where Animals are kept.

The number of inspections made during the year was 28.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

1. House Drainage.

In consequence of written complaints by the Chief Sanitary Inspector alleging a nuisance from defective drainage, the Public Health Committee ordered the opening and examination of the 44 houses and premises, and reports together with specifications of the work required were submitted. During the year the department has supervised the laying of 1,993 yards of stoneware pipes and 1,797 yards of heavy cast iron coated pipes, also the fixing of 143 intercepting traps, 386 gully traps and 230 inspection chambers and manholes. In connection with the work, 413 water tests and 211 smoke tests were applied to drains, soil pipes and ventilating shafts.

The number of existing buildings where plans of proposed alterations and additions were approved by the Town Planning Committee was 52. In each case the sanitary work was carried out to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. New flats or conversions of premises were supervised as to sanitary fittings and the work incidental thereto.

2. Corporation Sanitary Certificate.

Corporation Sanitary Certificates were granted in respect of the undermentioned houses, making a total of 1,465 certificates issued since these were inaugurated in the Borough. The Council have directed that all persons erecting new houses must be informed that in the event of a certificate being required, application must be made to the Sanitary Inspector, in order that the drains, sanitary fittings, etc., may comply with the standard.

Certificates granted :—

The Hawthorns, St. Mark's.	Oakley, The Park.
3, North Parade.	Glenmore Lodge, Wellington Sq.
Victoria Nursing Home,	Ashford House.
St. James' Square.	25, Tivoli Street.
New Oakley, The Park.	100, High Street (Liverpool Vaults).

3. Schools.

The whole of the sanitary conveniences at the elementary and council schools have been inspected, some minor defects were found in the sanitary fittings and in some proper care and cleansing was wanting. Except for Holy Trinity Boys' School, all the schools have been modernised by the installation of suitable conveniences. New school premises are in course of construction to replace the existing St. Gregory's School.

4. Minor Sewage Disposal.

During the year 10 houses and premises situated in rural parts of the district were provided with water closets, and a system of sewage disposal by means of septic tank and ventilated irrigation drains. The simple schemes which have been devised by the department are proving efficient and satisfactory, whereas the ordinary type of filter bed, unless given careful attention is liable to generate offensive gases during the summer period. A large estate which is in the process of alteration for industrial purposes, and is at present without sewers, has been allowed to utilise existing sewage plants on the estate temporarily, until main sewers are extended in that area.

HOUSING.

The work performed in the Borough of Cheltenham is set out in the usual tables, and other tables have been included which describe more fully the action taken in dealing with houses unfit for human habitation, and the improvements carried out as the result of formal and informal notices. A full list of houses erected by the Local Authority, with particular regard to rehousing displaced persons from clearance areas, during the years 1927, 1930, 1933, 1934 and 1935, is duly set out.

There were 339 houses for which formal and informal notices were served. Table 2 on page 38 fully describes the improvements carried out, including the important work executed under statutory undertakings which are subject to the detailed specification prepared by the department.

The district inspectors engaged on housing work which occupies the major part of their time are responsible for the drafting of specifications, interviewing the owners, agents and builders and the highly important work of inspection during the work in progress. Twenty-six houses were reconditioned by private owners. It should be noted that specifications of works are drawn up and issued to the owners in respect of a number of houses where demolition orders were subsequently made, thus indicating that although the owners were given the opportunity of reconditioning, they found themselves unable to bear the cost which would have been incurred to comply with the required standard. Fifty-seven Statutory Undertakings to recondition were accepted from owners but considerable delay in carrying them out has occurred by reason of the absence of alternative accommodation. The Housing Committee have however promised to rehouse the occupants when new or reconditioned houses become available. A number of owners have by mutual arrangement agreed to offer the completed houses to persons on the Council's waiting list.

RECONDITIONING.

The Cheltenham Scheme.

A statement has been prepared by the Borough Treasurer of the financial position of this scheme which the Cheltenham Council initiated some years ago under the earlier powers of the Housing Act, 1925, and which I believe stimulated the Government to extend the powers of local authorities and housing associations in the Housing Act, 1935. The scheme has been of special benefit to owners in poor circumstances, who have sold their houses to the Corporation, and although the purchase prices have been low, they have escaped the expense of demolition. The completed houses are used sometimes for rehousing in urgent cases of removals for persons dispossessed under court orders and also to increase accommodation available for confinements.

Housing (Reconditioning) Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 1936.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Capital Provisions.				Capital Ex-			
Loans Redeemed ...	425	0	0	penditure	6,089	18	7
Contributions from				Less.			
General Rate ...	3,804	3	3	Written off			
Proceeds of Sale ...	4,451	2	6	in respect			
				of properties			
	8,680	5	9	sold ...	4,716	4	4
Less.							
Written off in respect							
of properties sold ...	4,716	4	4	Treas., Cash in hand	2,590	7	2
Totals ...	£3,964	1	5	Totals ...	£3,964	1	5

Sale of Houses.

The detailed statement kindly prepared by the Borough Treasurer fully sets out the particulars of purchase, cost of re-conditioning and sale price of 26 houses, together with other premises originally bought for reconditioning but sold to private persons for redevelopment. The transactions not only show a margin of profit, but a substantial contribution by way of rents to the general rate account. During the year under review 7 houses that had been acquired were reconditioned and two more houses purchased.

Statement of Houses Purchased, Reconditioned and Sold.

HOUSE.	Purchase Price.			Cost of Reconditioning.			Total Cost to Corp'n.			Proceeds of Sale.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
9, Russell Place	51	0	0	117	15	0	168	15	0	170	0	0
40, Cleaveland St.	23	12	0	177	2	0	200	14	0	212	0	0
15, Burton St.	53	12	0	66	5	0	119	17	0	360	0	0
44, Burton St.	40	0	0	197	7	9	237	7	9			
5, 6, 7, Portman Ter.	35	5	0	246	9	9	281	14	9	3400	0	0
77, 79, Duke St.	40	16	6	329	19	6	370	16	0			
1, 2, Elm Street	80	0	0	224	13	6	304	13	6			
4, 5, 6, 7, Elm St.	143	5	0	302	19	6	446	4	6			
15, Elm St.	20	0	0	200	10	0	220	10	0			
2, 3, 4, 7, Rutland St.	133	0	0	583	17	2	716	17	2			
14, Rutland St.	50	0	0	201	10	2	251	10	2			
19, 44, 45, Rutland St.	90	10	0	296	0	0	386	10	0	*215	0	0
56, 57, Rutland St.	80	0	0	305	10	0	385	10	0			
40, Rutland St.	43	12	0	178	0	0	221	12	0			
51, Rutland St.	40	0	0	—	—	—	40	0	0			
60, 61, Rutland St.	76	0	0	—	—	—	76	0	0	120	0	0
TOTALS	£1,000	12	6	3,427	19	4	4,428	11	10	4,527	0	0

*Sold to Occupier.

Cost to Corporation	4,428	11	10
---------------------	-----	-----	-------	----	----

Profit on Sales	98	8	2
-----------------	-----	-----	----	---	---

Average profit per house (29 houses)	£3	7	10
--------------------------------------	----	---	----

Rehousing and Disinfestation.

On the instructions of the Housing Committee arrangements were made for the disinfestation of furniture and household effects when removed from clearance areas, individual unfit houses and basements. The special container used on removal was subjected to cyanide gas by a specialist firm, but all the bedding was treated by steam disinfection only. The number of removals so dealt with during the year was 191, and in addition 77 houses were subjected to cyanide gas fumigation. It has so far been impossible to find a case of bug infestation in the houses dealt with.

Several private owners have been encouraged to fumigate their houses in a similar manner, and houses acquired by the Council for re-conditioning have been fumigated preparatory to carrying out the work.

LIST OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

TABLE NO. 3.

List of Houses.	Bedrooms.	Class	Rent Inclusive.	Number	Housing Scheme.	
Hope Street ...	2	A2	6/9	36	} Slum Clearance H.W.C.A. 1890 and H.A. 1925. 1924 Act.	
Swindon Road ...	3	A	8/6	11		
Malvern Street ...	3	A	8/6	5		
Cobham Road ...	2	A2	5/9	15		
Elm Street ...	2	A2	5/9	11		
Malvern Street ...	3	A	7/11, 8/11	7		
Manser Street ...	2	A2	6/1	31		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	37		
Hudson Street ...	2	A2	6/1	13		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	38		
" " ...	3	A1	8/6	12	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930 1924 Act.	
Hanover Parade ...	3	A1	8/6	7		
Crabtree Place ...	2	A2	6/1	7		
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	17		
" " ...	3	A	6/3	19		
Folly Lane ...	3	A	7/-	7		
" " ...	2	A2	6/1	11		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	33		
Margrett Road ...	2	A2	6/1	14		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	29		
St. Paul's Road ...	3	A	8/-	8	(2 sold) } Slum Clearance under construction. Non-subsidy.	
Whaddon Road ...	2	A2	6/10	20		
Whaddon Avenue ...	3	A	8/11	69		
Whaddon Estate ...	4	A3	}	126		
" " ...	3	A				
" " ...	2	A2				
" " ...	1	A4				
" " ...	3	A		64		
Old Bath Road ...	3	A	9/5	2		
Pilley Crescent ...	2	A2	6/10	28		
" " ...	3	A	8/11	71		
Alstone Lane ...	3	A	6/9	5	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930.	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	6		
Pates' Avenue ...	3	A	6/3, 5/9	32		
" " ...	2	A2	5/6, 5/-	35		
Moor's Avenue ...	4	A3	7/-, 6/6	11		
" " ...	3	A	6/9, 6/3, 5/9	59		
" " ...	2	A2	6/-, 5/6, 5/-	70		
" " ...	1	A4	3/4	16		

St. Mark's Housing Estate.

Sold.	Let.	Rent Inclusive. (Present)	No.	Housing Scheme.
30	130	12/11 10/6	160	H.A. 1919.
153	11	12/11	164	H.A. 1923.
50	136	10/9 11/9 13/8	186	H.A. 1924.
	32	15/10	32	Without Subsidy.
	16	£45 Yearly plus rates	16	" "

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 472
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1416
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1932 ... 200
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 800
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 145
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 327

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 33

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 5
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
 - (a) By owners ... 20
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	14
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	6
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	1

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	49
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	18

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	12
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	1

E.—Statutory Undertakings under section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal undertakings were signed by owners	61
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were completed under formal undertaking given by owners ...	27
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses subject to representation but acquired by L.A. and reconditioned or reconstructed. Housing Acts, 1925 and 1935 ...	7

4. Number of New Houses erected during 1935:—

(a)	Total	368
(1)	By local authority	156
(2)	By other bodies or persons	212
(b)	Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1)	By the local authority	nil
(c)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1)	By the local authority	156

Details of Improvements effected (under the Housing Acts,
1925 and 1930, etc.) during the year, 1935.

TABLE NO. 4.

Dwelling-houses (General Improvements).

Lighting and ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	133
Provided with Corporation Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rendered free from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	66
Provided with food larders	...	...	...	...	...	35
Roofs overhauled or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	157
Walls (external) pointed, cemented or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	284
Doors and locks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	275
Chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	89
Washhouse furnaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	45
Washhouse floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	42
Provided with separate and sufficient w.c. accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	—
Provided with galvanised iron ash receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	30
Provided with new sinks	...	...	...	...	...	549
Provided with paved yards	...	...	...	...	...	97
Repaired or renewed eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes	...	...	...	...	...	351

Living rooms.

Cleansed and colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	93
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	57
New windows provided or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	104
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	160
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	100
New fireplaces or cooking ovens provided	...	...	...	...	...	76

Sleeping rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	133
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	71
New windows provided or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	119
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	221
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	102
New fireplaces provided	...	...	...	...	...	71
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	44

Basement rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	—
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness in walls prevented	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	—
Closed as underground sleeping rooms	...	...	...	...	...	12
Representations	...	...	...	...	...	24

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HABITATION, 1935.

Action taken under Housing Acts, 1935, 1930 and 1925.

1. Closing Orders. S. 20 and 84. Parts of Buildings. Basements or Underground Rooms.

6, Bayshill Terrace ; White Lodge, Lansdown Crescent ; 34, Lansdown Crescent ; 3, Andover Street ; Pear Tree Cottage, Montpellier Retreat ; Transvaal House, Portland Street ; 23, Lansdown Place ; 26, Winchcombe Street ; 10, St. Philip's Terrace ; 29, Grosvenor Place South ; Elkstone House, 102, Bath Road.

1a. Premises amended and Regulations, etc.

310, High Street.

2. Demolition Orders. S. 19.

121, Tewkesbury Road ; 2, 4, Fairview Street ; 13, 40, 51, Rutland Street ; 10, 11, Sidney Street ; 3, Trent Cottages, Gloucester Place ; 9a, Hewlett Street ; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Gordon Terrace ; 13, Grosvenor Street ; rear 23, Townsend Street ; Caravan, Normal Terrace ; The Hollies and Hollie Cottage, Tewkesbury Road ; Arle Farm Cottage, Arle ; rear 82, High Street ; 2, The Waterloo ; 34, 36, Malvern Street ; 1, Crowthers Passage ; 16, 17, St. Anne's Terrace ; 11, 7, Waterloo Street ; 45a, 47b, New Street ; 1, Red Lion Passage ; 4, Russell Street ; 17, 18, King Street ; 56, Swindon Road ; 1, 2, 3, Hatherley Cottages.

2a. Undertakings signed by owners. Conversion of Premises S. 19. Rear 5, Hewlett Cottages ; 15, 15a, 16, Casino Place ; 6, Rutland Street ; 13, Grosvenor Street ; Dee Cottage, Hatherley Road ; rear 82, High Street ; 2, The Waterloo.

3. Representations S. 19. Adjourned consideration.

34, 36, Suffolk Road ; 31a, Rose and Crown Passage ; 37, 38, Marle Hill Parade ; 30, 31, Sun Street ; 25, Elm Street ; 2, Hartley Place ; 42, 43, 44, Montpellier Villas ; 4, 5, 6, Berkeley Avenue ; Claremont Cottage, rear Montpellier Terrace ; 1, 2, 3, News Cottages, Alstone Lane ; 12, Townsend Street ; 14, 15, 54, 55, 58, Worcester Street ; 16, 17, 18, 19, Waterloo Street ; 1, 2, The Retreat, Tewkesbury Road ; 1, 2, Cakebridge Cottages ; Cresswell Lodge, Carter's Lane.

4. Work executed by owner through an Undertaking S. 19.

368, 370, Gloucester Road ; 3, 4, Albert Street, St. Peter's ; 42, 62, 63, 39, 16, 22, Rutland Street ; 51, 47, Sherborne Street ; 2, 3, Clare Garden Cottages, Clare Street ; 17, 17a, Burton Street (conversion to one house) also Green's Passage, now 5, Rutland Street ; 10, Grosvenor Street ; 10, 6, Columbia Street ; 11, 12, Queen Street ; 36, York Street (conversion to one house) ; 74, 76, Duke Street ; 29, Tivoli Street ; 2, Russell Street.

5. Undertakings signed by owners S. 19.

5, Hewlett Cottages ; 1, 2, Britannia Square ; 9, Sherborne Place ; 27, 11, 12, Queen Street ; 10, Grosvenor Street ; 52, 62, 2, Burton Street ; 25, 46, Rutland Street ; Zion Cottage, Short Street ; 37, 27, 2, Russell Street ; 45, Sherborne Street ; 76, 74, Duke Street ; 29, Tivoli Street ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Weston Cottages, Tewkesbury Road ; 43, Fairview Road ;

15, King Street; 18, 19, 48, Townsend Street; 90, Swindon Road; 19, Beaufort Buildings; 68, 70, Brunswick Street; Highbury House and White House, Highbury Lane; 1, 2, 3, Glenfall Terrace; 1, 2, Arle Cottages, Arle; 39, Cleaveland Street; 43, 45 and 45a, St. James' Street; 30, 31, Worcester Street; 23, Commercial Street; 44, 45, 46, 46a, 47, 47a, New Street; 32, 34, Victoria Place; 6, Russell Place.

6. Acquisition for reconditioning by Local Authority.

24, 25, Queen Street.

6a. Works completed on acquired houses by Local Authority.

17, 19, 40, 44, 45, 57, 65, Rutland Street now known as Brunswick Street South.

7. Houses demolished S. 19.

2, 4, Fairview Street; 45, Russell Street; 6, Rutland Street (Brunswick Street South); 13, Grosvenor Street; 2, The Waterloo; rear 82, High Street; Dee Cottage; 1—8, Knapp Place (inclusive); rear 5, Hewlett Cottages; Cumberland Buildings.

8. (Slum Clearance) S. 1. Houses demolished.

1 and 2, Birdlip Cottages, Commercial Street.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 14 farms and dairy farms and 66 dairies and retail purveyors on the register of the borough. The registrations totalled nine wholesale traders, producers and retail purveyors, including those residing outside the district. One dairy farm on the register has ceased milk production. All retail premises have been inspected and 162 visits were made including farm inspections.

Meat Inspection.

The usual tabular statements are submitted which fully illustrate the careful attention given to the meat supply of the district including, as it does, the important work of constant inspection at the various cold storage depôts. Cheltenham is a wholesale centre for distribution of imported meat throughout a considerable area of Gloucestershire. It is estimated that 500 visits were made to these stores, and a quantity of unsound meat was surrendered as the result. Special mention should be made of the assistance rendered to the department in this town by the managers, butchers and retail purveyors engaged in the meat trade, who are as anxious to supply the public with clean, sound and wholesome meat, as the officials who carry out the law.

Tuberculosis.

At the Public Abattoir a batch of 20 pigs were sent in from a farm for slaughter, and on examination of the dressed carcasses it was found that every head was badly affected with tuberculosis in the submaxillary glands, but only in one case was the disease generalized sufficiently for condemnation. The case was of interest in so far that these pigs were from litters of several sows served by one boar, and the department were aware from previous visits to the farm that it had been the practice of

the producer to feed the pigs with surplus milk. A bacteriological examination of the milk from the cows as well as an examination of the cows failed to reveal the presence of tuberculosis amongst the milking herd.

Seizure of Meat.

At one retail meat trader's premises it was necessary by order of a Magistrate to seize some 23 lbs of decomposed meat that was exposed in the shop and deposited on the premises. On a later occasion it was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's order to seize and remove the remaining supply of meat in the shop, amounting to 190 lbs., all of which was unfit for food. The Public Health Committee having considered all the circumstances of the case decided not to prosecute.

Number of Animals slaughtered during 1935.

TABLE NO. 5.

Species.			Private Slaughterhouses.	Abattoir.	Total.
Bullocks	...	...	14	15	29
Heifers	...	...	500	539	1039
Cows	...	...	—	12	12
Calves	...	...	618	1762	2380
Sheep	...	...	4854	4359	9213
Pigs	...	...	1665	4207	5872
Total ...			7651	10,894	18,545

Number of Animals affected with Tuberculosis.

TABLE NO. 6.

Species.			No. Slaughtered.	Found Tuberculous.	Percentage.
Bullocks	...	...	29	—	—
Heifers	...	...	1039	30	2'88
Cows	...	...	12	1	8'3
Calves	...	...	2380	—	—
Pigs	...	...	5872	234	3'98
Total ...			9332	265	2'83

Carcases Condemned as Totally Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE NO. 7.

Species.		T.B.	Casualty.	Parasitic Diseases.	Bacterial Disease.	Moribund.	Abnormal Pathological Conditions.	Total Number of Animals.
Cows	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heifers	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pigs	...	13	—	1	11	1	2	28
Sheep	...	—	3	—	—	1	1	5
Calves	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...		14	3	1	11	2	3	34

TABLE NO. 8.

					Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef in carcase	...	...	...	...	—	5	2	26
Pork	„	...	...	...	1	3	2	9
Veal	„	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Mutton	„	...	...	...	—	2	2	14
Meat not in carcase	...	...	...	...	1	15	3	2
Organs	...	...	...	...	1	8	3	20
Total					4	16	2	15

Various Organs condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE NO. 9.

		Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Kidneys.	Spleens.	Mesenteries.	Intestines.
Tuberculosis	Cows	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Heifers	18	13	5	6	6	7	4	7	5
	Pigs	172	36	33	37	23	14	19	77	64
	Calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inflammatory conditions	Bovine	—	5	1	4	—	—	2	—	—
	Sheep	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
	Calves	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
	Pigs	—	76	56	35	3	—	1	1	32
Bacterial diseases	Bovine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pigs	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
	Calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parasitic diseases	Bovine	—	3	—	33	—	—	—	—	—
	Sheep	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—
	Pigs	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
	Calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abnormal Pathological conditions	Bovine	2	3	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
	Sheep	—	5	5	4	2	2	2	2	2
	Pigs	6	4	4	23	3	10	3	3	6
	Calves	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	1
Actinomycosis	Bovine	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	217	158	117	197	49	48	43	102	122

Tinned Goods, Fish, Poultry, etc., condemned as unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 10.

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
MEATS.			
7 Tins Beef			17
MISCELLANEOUS TINNED FOODS.			
Fruit, Fish, etc.—88 Tins	3	5	25
POULTRY.			
147 Fowls, 2 Turkeys, 1 Goose, 60 Pigeons	4	2	6
RABBITS.			
41 Carcases		3	1
FISH.			
Halibut, Herrings, Haddock, Lemon Soles	1	0	6
FRUIT		3	0
GAME.			
18 Hares, 24 Partridges, Pheasants' Eggs	1	1	4
CHEESE			10
Total ...	13	0	13

Report on the Administration of Factory and Workshops' Acts, 1901 and 1917, in connection with Factories, Workplaces and Home Work.

TABLE No. 11.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written and Verbal notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	62	9	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	156	37	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Out- workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	218	46	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness	27	12	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Want of drainage of Floors ...	3	2	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient ...	1	Nil	Nil
	Unsuitable or defective ...	2	Nil	Nil
	Not separate for sexes ...	1	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshops' Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences : (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	44	18	Nil	Nil

3. HOME WORK.—LIST RECEIVED FROM EMPLOYERS.

Nature of Work.	Once in the Year.		Twice in the Year.	
	Lists.	Out-workers	Lists.	Out-workers
Wearing Apparel (making) ...	1	4	4	37
Notified from other Authorities...	1	1	1	1

Number of Outworkers on Register 49

Outworkers' Premises inspected during 1935 24

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.						Number
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	29
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	34
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	22
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	...	45
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	10
Builders, Woodworkers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	28
Metal Workers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Motor and Cycle Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	67
Total						268

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	Nil
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 101)	Nil
Notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	3
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil
Certificates granted during the year	Nil
In use at the end of the year	2

THE SHOPS ACT, 1934.

A commencement was made during the year with inspections under this Act, for the purpose of dealing with the provisions relating to the health and comfort of shop workers. The inspections totalled 33. It is necessary to state that a considerable number of shop premises such as food shops and premises under the Factory and Workshops Acts, etc., have been inspected and improvements made in past years. With the Health Department inspectorate concentrating on the present extensive work required by the Housing Acts, it was impossible to carry out the desired number of inspections.

A short summary is set out showing the result of inspections:—

Defects.				Reported.	Complied.
Insufficient or defective w.c. accommodation	...	...	...	10	3
„ „ Ventilation	...	...	...	1	—
„ „ Heating	...	...	...	1	—
„ „ Washing facilities	...	...	...	1	—
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	3	—
Other defects	...	...	...	6	1
Total				22	4

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was necessary for the Local Authority to issue summonses against two owners for permitting the occupation of basement dwellings after a closing order had been made. The Magistrates fined the owner £2/2/0 and costs in regard to one case, and in the other case the owner had to pay costs and to give an undertaking to remove the occupants forthwith.

WORK CARRIED OUT.

By Chief Sanitary Inspector by order of the Local Authority
either in default or at request of owners.

		£	s.	d.
Drainage Work.	No. 8, Chapel Street	20	3	0
Demolition Work.	Cumberland Lodge, Grove Street	14	0	0
Total		34	3	0

RAT REPRESSION AND DESTRUCTION.

The Corporation assisted the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in carrying out National Rat Week, and a special report was forwarded to the Government department in regard to the campaign. The campaign consists mainly of newspaper publicity and the encouragement of voluntary notification ; this, in my opinion, helps to secure the practical co-operation of the public in obtaining definite information for the proper execution of this work by the department.

The Executive Officer has made routine inspections of premises and buildings, and the systematic baiting of sewers has been so effective during the past 10 years that there is a definite diminution in the amount of rat infestation, and the Borough has never been so free from this vermin since the work was inaugurated under the Rats Destruction Act. In my capacity as Sanitary Inspector I have year by year brought to the notice of the Local Authority a list of defective sewers which have been discovered by direct evidence of the egress of rats, and these sewers are gradually being relaid or repaired.

It was necessary to serve a notice under S. 5 of the Act in regard to a food shop, with the result that extensive rat-proofing work was carried out to the foundations, footings and structure, which was successful in protecting the building from re-infestation. Excellent work was carried out by the Foreman of the Destructor Works by organised rat hunts, which periodically averaged 40 killed each time. The dumping of tins at this depôt attracts the rat in search of food, and a trap has been constructed which prevents any escaping when the tins are rolled out for scrap.

The destruction of rats does not receive the attention of adjoining authorities which it should do, and Cheltenham continues to suffer in consequence of this lack of action. Continued efforts must therefore be made by this Council, not only to reduce the local rat population, but to prevent the constant immigration always taking place in the Autumn and Winter by way of the rivers and streams that flow through the Cheltenham area.

